

JAN 19 2012

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO AGRICULTURE.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that certain companies  
2       require local farmers to have third-party food safety  
3       certifications before purchasing locally grown food from those  
4       farmers. The legislature further finds that private food safety  
5       certification is often cost prohibitive and places a financial  
6       burden on local farmers. Farmers who cannot afford third-party  
7       food safety certifications will miss out on market opportunities  
8       to sell their products.

9       The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
10      agriculture to develop a food safety compliance certificate  
11      program that allows farmers to obtain a certificate that is  
12      equivalent to a third-party food safety certification.

13      SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14      amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15      and to read as follows:

16      "§141-       Food safety compliance certificate program.   (a)

17      The department of agriculture shall issue a food safety  
18      compliance certificate to any farmer who registers with the



1 department, on forms prescribed and prepared by the department,  
2 the following information:

3       (1) The farmer's name, address, including tax map key  
4             number, and contact information;

5       (2) Identification of the primary crops grown by the  
6             farmer;

7       (3) A description of on-farm practices designed to  
8             minimize the risk of food contamination by human and  
9             animal pathogens, including records of how food is  
10            grown, handled, and stored;

11       (4) Any other information that may assist the department  
12            with:

13            (A) Compiling accurate information on the food safety  
14                practices of farmers in the State;

15            (B) Tracing specific food-borne pathogen outbreaks  
16                related to locally grown crops; and

17            (C) Developing methods of preventing food-borne  
18                pathogen outbreaks from reoccurring.

19       (b) A food safety compliance certificate issued pursuant  
20 to this section shall be equivalent to any food safety  
21 certification issued by a private third party.



1        (c) The department shall keep registration information  
2 confidential to the extent that the information falls within an  
3 exception to disclosure under chapter 92F; provided that the  
4 name, business address, and primary crops of each registrant  
5 shall be made publicly available by the department; provided  
6 further that the department may compile statistics based on the  
7 information, pursuant to section 141-1.

8        (d) The department shall charge a fee of \$100 for  
9 registration under this section.

10       (e) A food safety compliance certificate shall be  
11 effective for a period of one year, and may be renewed at the  
12 end of each one-year period.

13       (f) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91  
14 to carry out the purpose of this section."

15       SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

16       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

17  
INTRODUCED BY:

*John M.*

*by request*



# S.B. NO. 2096

**Report Title:**

Agriculture; Food Safety; Certification

**Description:**

Requires the department of agriculture to develop a food safety compliance certificate registry program.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

